

Fredericksburg Arts Commission Meeting

Thursday, June 10th, 2010

City Suite

Attendees: George Solley, Rochelle Grey, Florence Ridderhof, Julie Perry, Roy Jarnecke, Kevin Bartram, Kathleen Walsh, Kerry Devine, Pat Thalman, Debby Kelin.

Tom Byrnes is present as a member of the public.

Call to Order: Chairman Jarnecke

Motion on the table:

Motion to approve submission of a grant request to the EDA to fund a feasibility study for the Amelia Square Performing Arts Center project.

Roy Jarnecke re-introduced the motion for the benefit of Commission members not present at the June 3rd meeting.

Debby Klein spoke to the proposal and the processes that had led individual commission members to request this type of action. She spoke passionately about the opportunity presented by the Silver Company and the urgency of keeping this project moving forward for the sake of the entire community. Much discussion followed and many questions were asked of Debby Klein and the other Commission members who had been involved at various times during the Amelia Square discussions. Florence Ridderhof expressed concern over the procedures and lack of information passed on to the Commission at large. Kerry Devine tried to address these concerns and the timeline of events. She described things as having 'snowballed at the end' leading to the quick turnaround of information.

Pat Thalman voiced frustration over lack of reporting from individual commission members and she urged everyone to consider the importance of monthly reports when we are representing the Fredericksburg Arts Commission. This led to discussion about individual roles and various Commission member's responsibilities for the City of Fredericksburg and the greater community outside of the Arts Commission.

Kathleen Walsh asked several questions about why we should allow our timetable to be dictated by the Silver Companies and their urgency for development. Roy Jarnecke clarified that we were not responding to an independent developer's sense of urgency, but rather, it was the City Manager and Council's request for information that created the urgency. Kathleen Walsh appreciated this perspective and moved on to ask Kevin Bartram how he felt about the grant request and even how the Amelia Square project was being

perceived at the University. Dr. Bartram responded that he was skeptical when this request was first reviewed but trusts the people involved in bringing it to this point and he supports the Arts Commission moving forward.

Debby Klein closed by saying that this Amelia Square project is the best opportunity for a performing arts center before the city for a long time and it's our responsibility to see what we can do with it.

After that Rochelle Grey called for the question ending debate. It passed unanimously.

The motion to ***approve submission of a grant request to the EDA to fund a feasibility study for the Amelia Square Performing Arts Center project.*** passed unanimously.

Kerry Devine moved for adjournment and Kevin Bartram seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. The next meeting is Thursday, July 1st, 2010 at 7pm.